

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 46, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The antioxidants include, for example, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER BHT-R, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER MDP-S, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER BBM-S, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER WX-R, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER NW, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER BP-76, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER BP-101, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER GA-80, ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER GM and ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER GS (the above are manufactured by Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd.), IRGANOX 1010, IRGANOX 1035, IRGANOX 1076, IRGANOX 1098, IRGANOX 1135, IRGANOX 1141, IRGANOX 1222, IRGANOX 1330, IRGANOX 1425WL, IRGANOX 1520L, IRGANOX 245, IRGANOX 259, IRGANOX 3114, IRGANOX 3790, IRGANOX 5057 and IRGANOX 565 (the above are manufactured by Ciba Specialty Chemicals), and ~~Adecastab~~ ADECASTAB AO-20, ~~Adecastab~~ ADECASTAB AO-30, ~~Adecastab~~ ADECASTAB AO-40, ~~Adecastab~~ ADECASTAB AO-50, ~~Adecastab~~ ADECASTAB AO-60, ~~Adecastab~~ ADECASTAB AO-70, ~~Adecastab~~ ADECASTAB AO-80 and ~~Adecastab~~ ADECASTAB AO-330 (the above are manufactured by Asahi Denka Co., Ltd.), as the hindered phenol antioxidants.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 47, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, the hindered amine antioxidants include ~~Sanol~~ SANOL LS2626, ~~Sanol~~ SANOL LS765, ~~Sanol~~ SANOL LS770, ~~Sanol~~ SANOL LS744, ~~Tinuvin~~ TINUVIN 144, ~~Tinuvin~~ TINUVIN 622LD, ~~Mark~~ MARK LA57, ~~Mark~~ MARK LA67, ~~Mark~~ MARK LA62, ~~Mark~~ MARK LA68, ~~Mark~~ MARK LA63 and ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER TPS. The thioether antioxidants include ~~Sumilizer~~ SUMILIZER TP-D, and the phosphite antioxidants include

~~Mark~~ MARK 2112, ~~Mark~~ MARK PEP-8, ~~Mark~~ MARK PEP-24G, ~~Mark~~ MARK PEP-36, ~~Mark~~ MARK 329K and ~~Mark~~ MARK HP-10. In particular, the hindered phenol and hindered amine antioxidants are preferred.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 49, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The solid catalysts include cation exchange resins such as ~~Amberlite~~ AMBERLITE 14, ~~Amberlite~~ AMBERLITE 200C and ~~Amberlist~~ AMBERLITE 15E (the above are manufactured by Rhom & Haas Co.), DOWEX MWC-1-H, DOWEX 88 and DOWEX HCR-W2 (the above are manufactured by Dow Chemical Co.), ~~Levatit~~ LEVATIT SPC-108 and ~~Levatit~~ LEVATIT SPC-118 (the above are manufactured by Bayer AG), ~~Diaion~~ DIAION RCP-150H (manufactured by Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation), ~~Sumikaion~~ SUMIKAION KC-470, ~~Duolite~~ DUOLITE C26-C, ~~Duolite~~ DUOLITE C-433 and ~~Duolite~~ DUOLITE 464 (the above are manufactured by Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd.), and ~~Nafion~~ NAFION H (manufactured by E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company); anionic exchange resins such as ~~Amberlite~~ AMBERLITE IRA-400 and ~~Amberlite~~ AMBERLITE IRA-45 (the above are manufactured by Rhom & Haas Co.); inorganic solids to whose surfaces protonic acid group-containing groups are bonded, such as $\text{Zr}(\text{O}_3\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{SO}_3\text{H})_2$ and $\text{Th}(\text{O}_3\text{PCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{COOH})_2$; protonic acid group-containing polyorganosiloxanes such as a sulfonic acid-containing polyorganosiloxane; heteropolyacids such as cobalt tungstic acid and phosphorous molybdic acid; isopolyacids such as niobic acid, tantallic acid and molybdic acid; unitary metal oxides such as silica gel, alumina, chromia, zirconia, CaO and MgO; complex metal oxides such as silica-alumina, silica-magnesia, silica-zirconia and zeolite; clay minerals such as acid clay, activated clay, montmorillonite and kaolinite; metal sulfates such as LiSO_4 and MgSO_4 ; metal phosphates such as zirconia phosphate and lanthanum phosphate; metal nitrates such as

LiNO_3 and $\text{Mn}(\text{NO}_3)_2$; inorganic solids to whose surfaces amino group-containing groups are bonded, such as a solid obtained by reacting aminopropyltriethoxysilane on silica gel; and amino group-containing polyorganosiloxanes such as an amino-modified silicon resin.